

**Washington State Ferries
Strategic Business and Capital Funding Plan**

Briefing Paper
Prepared for the February 2003
Transportation Commission Meeting

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PURPOSE:

To provide an update on the WSF proposal to implement the business and capital funding plan strategies announced in December.

ACTION/OUTCOME:

Washington State Ferries seeks Transportation Commission approval of the Strategic Business and Capital Funding Plans.

BACKGROUND:

WSF has presented to the Commission a strategic business plan that provides a balanced approach for bringing long-term financial viability to WSF operations, and a capital plan that will provide for the construction of new ferries. The successful implementation of these plans depends on passage by the legislature of enabling legislation and funding for WSF as presented in the 2003 – 2005 budget previously approved by the Commission.

DISCUSSION:

At the January Commission meeting, WSF was directed to conduct a series of meetings to allow the public an opportunity to comment on the Business and Capital Funding Plan. Four meetings were conducted in late January and early February. A report on those meetings along with public testimony taken will be presented at the February Commission meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Commission is requested to approve the Business and Capital Funding Plan and direct WSF to implement the elements of the Business and Capital Funding Plan.